Elementary or accidental form of value (and/or tonality)

20 yards of linen = 1 coat, or
20 Yards of linen are worth 1 coat.

“Here two different kinds of commodities (in our example the linen and the coat), evidently play two different parts. The linen expresses its value in the coat; the coat serves as the material in which that value is expressed.” (Karl Marx, *Capital: A Critique of Political Economy*, translated by Samuel Moore and Edward Aveling, New York: The Modern Library 1906, p. 56)

C-major triad = G-major triad, or
C-major triad is worth G-major triad.

“Here two different kinds of triads (in our example the C-major triad and the G-major triad), evidently play two different parts. The C-major triad expresses its tonality in the G-major triad; the G-major triad serves as the material in which that tonality is expressed.”

Total or expanded form of value (and/or tonality)

“The value of a single commodity, the linen, for example, is now expressed in terms of numberless other elements of the world of commodities. Every other commodity now becomes a mirror of the linen’s value.” (Ibid., p. 72)

“The expanded relative value form is, however, nothing but the sum of the elementary relative expressions or equations of the first kind, such as:
20 yards of linen = 1 coat, or = 10 lbs of tea, or = 40 lbs of coffee, or = 1 quarter of corn, or = 2 ounces of gold, or = ½ a ton of iron, etc.” (Ibid., p. 74)

“The tonality of a single triad, the C-major triad, for example, is now expressed in terms of numberless other elements of the world of triads. Every other triad now becomes a mirror of the C-major triad’s tonality.”

“The expanded relative tonality form is, however, nothing but the sum of the elementary relative expressions or equations of the first kind, such as:
C-major triad = G-major triad, or = A-minor triad, or = F-major triad, or = D-minor triad, or = E-minor triad, or = C-minor triad, etc.”

The general form of value (and/or tonality)
“The two earlier forms either express the value of each commodity in terms of a single commodity of a different kind, or in a series of many such commodities. In both cases, it is, so to say, the special business of each single commodity to find an expression for its value, and this it does without the help of the others. These others, with respect to the former, play the passive parts of equivalents. The general form of value [...] results from the joint action of the whole world of commodities, and from that alone. A commodity can acquire a general expression of its value only by all other commodities, simultaneously with it, expressing their values in the same equivalent; and every new commodity must follow suit.” (Ibid., p. 76)

\[
\begin{align*}
    1 & \text{ coat} \\
    10 & \text{ lbs of tea} \\
    40 & \text{ lbs of coffee} \\
    1 & \text{ quarter of corn} \\
    2 & \text{ ounces of gold} \\
    \frac{1}{2} & \text{ a ton of iron, etc.}
\end{align*}
\]

= 20 yards of linen

“The two earlier forms either express the tonality of each triad in terms of a single triad of a different kind, or in a series of many such triads. In both cases, it is, so to say, the special business of each single triad to find an expression for its tonality, and this it does without the help of the others. These others, with respect to the former, play the passive parts of equivalents. The general form of tonality [...] results from the joint action of the whole world of triads, and from that alone. A triad can acquire a general expression of its tonality only by all other triads, simultaneously with it, expressing their tonalities in the same equivalent; and every new triad must follow suit.”

\[
\begin{align*}
    \text{G-major triad} \\
    \text{A-minor triad} \\
    \text{F-major triad} \\
    \text{D-minor triad} \\
    \text{E-minor triad} \\
    \text{C-minor triad, etc.}
\end{align*}
\]

= C-major triad

The money-form (and/or the tonality-form)

\[
\frac{y}{x} = \frac{x}{x+y} (=a)
\]

x: money / tonic key
y: various commodities / various keys
x+y: the world of commodities mediated by money (=capital) / all keys (in the tonal sphere)
a: value / tonality